

# UMODPC



612-401-03

Convoy Operations 612-401-03

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# **Convoy Operations**



Key References, Organizations and Documentation



# References - Convoy



- FORSCON/ARNG Regulations 55-1: Unit Movement Planning, Chapter 7
  - Defines convoys
  - Outlines responsibilities of planners
  - Addresses convoy issues



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# References - Convoy (Cont)



- FM 55-30: Army Motor Transport Units and Operations, Chapter 5
  - Devoted to convoy control and planning
  - Discusses entire convoy process





# References - Convoy (Cont)



- FM 55-65: Strategic Deployment, Chapter 5
  - Convoy Organization
  - The different elements in a convoy
  - Furnishes instructions for time and distance factors

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## Key Organizations/Staff -- Unit Movement Coordinator (UMC)



- Unit Movement Coordinator (UMC)
  - Assists in coordinating requests for convoy clearances & special hauling permits
  - Coordination includes contacts with DMCs & SMCCs





- State Area Command (STARC)
  - Army National Guard (ARNG) organization in each State
  - Controls mobilized ARNG units from HS to Mobilization Station (MS)
  - Includes Defense Movement Coordinator (DMC)



- Defense Movement Coordinator (DMC)
  - Convoy approval authority for <u>all</u> DOD highway movements. Active & Reserve
  - Operates State Movement Control Center (SMCC) to manage convoys
  - Maintains MOBCON automated system to centrally control convoy movements

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DMC

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#### SMCC

- Processes and coordinates convoy requests
- Interface between military (DOD) & civilian (DOT) agencies that control the use of highways, tunnels & bridges

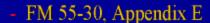


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- State Department of Transportation (SDOT)
  - Sets limitations & restrictions on length, width, height & weight of vehicles & loads on interstate highways, bridges & tunnels within its state





State Department of Transportation

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- Civilian police/military police
  - Military &/or civilian police support required along convoy route must be coordinated through installation provost marshal or SMCC
  - UMOs obtain the assistance of civilian police as required for convoy movement through critical areas
  - Police support for more distant areas may be arranged through DMC/SMCC

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Military

Police

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- Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC)
  - Coordinates highway policy & related matters between military & civilian authorities
  - Maintains national directory of state personnel that may be contacted for special highway permits & a list of DOD personnel authorized to request permits
  - Takes action to resolve denial of permits

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# Introduction to Convoy Documentation

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# DD Form 1265 -- Request for Convoy Clearance

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### DD Form 1265 (Cont)



- UMO must complete DD Form 1265 to obtain a convoy clearance number
  - RC: Convoy requests must arrive at STARC (DMC) NLT 45 days before proposed convoy
  - AC: Convoy requests must be submitted via UMC/ITO to arrive at STARC (DMC) NLT 10 days before the proposed convoy, or per local policy



# DD Form 1266 --

### Request for Special Hauling Permit

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### DD Form 1266 (Cont)



 DD Form 1266: Used to obtain special hauling permits for movement of oversize/overweight vehicles over public highways as part of a convoy or when traveling separately



# FM 55-30, Appendix E



#### SUMMARY OF U.S. SIZE & WEIGHT LIMITS

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#### Each state has specific regulations governing the use of its highways

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# DD Form 626 Motor Vehicle Inspection (Transporting Hazardous

Materials)

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#### DD Form 836

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# **Convoy Planning**



• Convoy planning of a unit's personnel, supplies, and equipment rests with you

• There are many considerations that impact convoy planning and preparation



# "Convoy" Defined

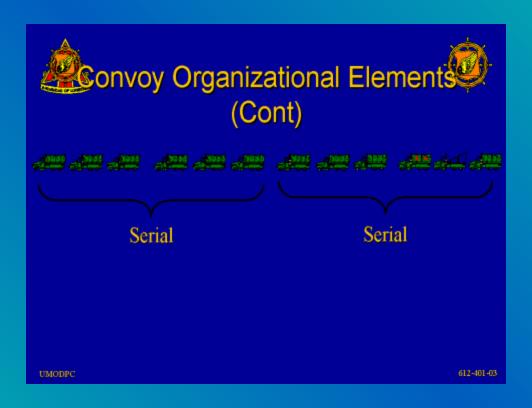


- A convoy is:
  - Any group of six (6) or more vehicles under the control of a single commander
  - When 10 or more vehicles per hour move to the same destination over the same route

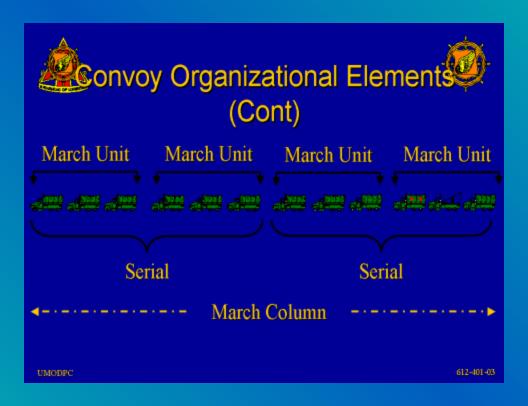


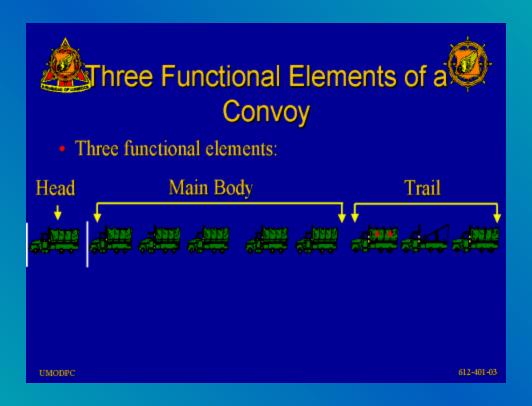
- Three (3) elements:
  - March column / convoy commander
  - Serial / serial commander
  - **9** March unit / march unit commander

# **Convoy Organizational Elements** (Cont) March Column 612-401-03 UMODPC











- Head: First vehicle in convoy
  - Marked with blue flag
  - Carries "pacesetter"
    - Subordinate commander
       responsible for setting the pace to
       maintain prescribed schedules &
       rates of march
      - Keeping convoy on proper route

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- Main Body:
  - Largest part of convoy

- Follows pacesetter
- Typically divided into serials & march units for easier control & management

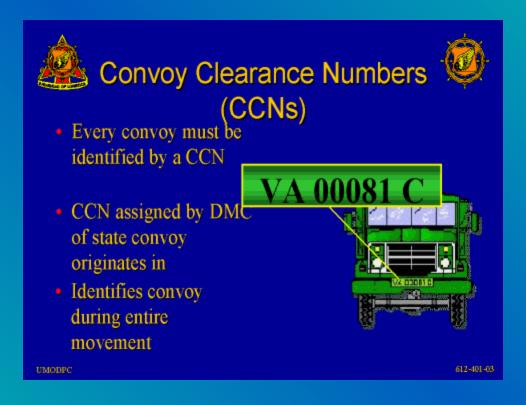


- Trail: Last element of convoy
  - Maintenance, refueling & medical support assets



- Trail officer is normally responsible for handling march discipline, breakdowns, straggling vehicles & accident scene control
- Last vehicle in trail element should be marked with a green flag



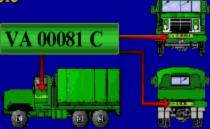




# CCNs (Cont)



- CCN must be displayed as follows:
  - Both sides of each vehicle
  - Front & back of each vehicle (if possible)



- Top of the hood of the lead & last vehicles of each march unit

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## CCNs (Cont)



A 00081

• The CCN is an 8-digit, 3-part figure consisting of:

- A 2-letter abbreviation of the issuing state
- A 5-digit control number
- **9** A 1-digit type of movement designator



# 🥮 CCN Movement Designators 🤎



- Movement designators:
  - C = Regular convoy
  - S = Oversize/Overweight
  - E = Explosives
  - H = Other hazardous materials

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## CCNs (Cont)



- Example:
  - The 81st convoy originating in Virginia in 2000 & carrying general cargo will be assigned convoy number:

VA 00081 C



# Local Area Convoy Numbers



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- For AC units, the ITO/UMC may provide with prior coordination with the STARC (DMC), a CCN comprised of 10 digits & 4 sections:
  - A 2-letter post identifier

FE 0059 039 C

- A 4-digit Julian date
- **9** A 3-digit sequence number
- **4** A single digit type movement designator

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# 👺 Local Area Convoy Numbers 🤎 (Cont)



- Example:
  - The 39th local convoy originating at Ft Eustis in Virginia on 28 February 2000 will be assigned convoy number:

FE 0059 039 C

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#### Route Reconnaissance



- Not limited to tactical operations
- Must be done prior to any convoy operation
- Type dependent on time and resources available
- Three types:
  - Map reconnaissance
  - Ground reconnaissance
  - Air reconnaissance



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# Map

#### Reconnaissance

- Should always be conducted prior to a highway movement
- Much Information can be obtained from maps including:
  - Road surface type
  - Type of terrain
  - Obstacles
  - Critical points
  - Distances
  - Check points





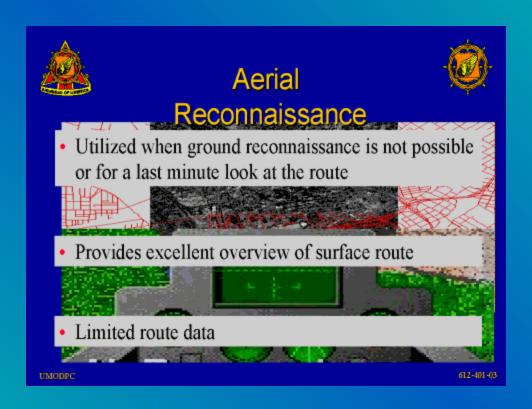
## Ground Reconnaissance



- Should be conducted as soon as map reconnaissance is complete
- Most effective type of reconnaissance
- Provides "real" information



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#### Start Point (SP)



- Convoy commander assumes active control of column at the start point (SP)
- Convoy passes start point at established rate of march and vehicle interval.
- Start point should be a point on the route that is easily recognizable on both map & ground



#### Release Point (RP)



- A common point from which vehicles in a column with different destinations can be released to continue their assignments
- Unit guides meet their units at the release point & lead them to their designated area
- The release point should be easily recognizable on both map & ground



#### Halts



- Halt locations should be selected in advance
- Used for rest, refueling, mess and maintenance
- Rest halts scheduled for 15 minutes end of the first hour
   & 10 minutes every two hours thereafter
- Key points for rest halts:
  - Meal halts are one hour
  - Check on loads during rest halts
  - Refuel at meal halts if necessary



#### **Critical Points**



- Critical points that may slow convoy progress should be considered by the convoy commander. They include:
  - Toll roads
  - Bridges
  - Overpasses / Underpasses
  - Constrictions
  - Sharp turns



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#### **Route Considerations**



- An alternate route should be identified
- Location of medical facilities & telephones should be noted
- Speed limits should be recorded



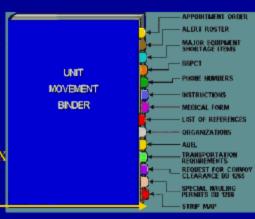
#### Strip Maps



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 Strip maps are issued to each driver & other key personnel involved with the convoy

Strip maps can be included as an appendix to the unit movement plan

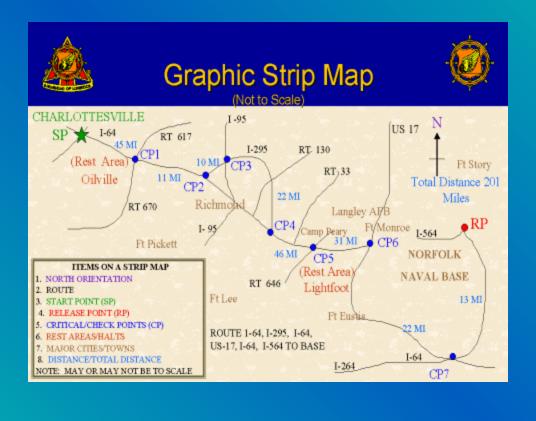




#### **Strip Map Preparation**



- A strip map is a graphic representation of the route the convoy will travel
- The strip map need not be drawn to scale, but should include the following elements:
  - Start point Major cities & towns
  - Release point Critical points & check points
  - Rest areas
     Distance between checkpoints
  - Routes North orientation





### **Logistical Support**



- Command responsibility
- Logistical requirements should be arranged prior to convoy movement, and could include:
  - Maintenance
  - Billeting Escorts
  - Refueling Medical
  - Communication



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#### Safety



- Safety concerns:
  - Drivers and leaders obey signals and orders
  - Proper safety awareness and enforcement
  - Vehicles maintain pace
  - Proper interval maintained

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#### **Unit Motor Pool**



- Unit should complete as many preparations as possible at motor pool area
  - Check Radios and frequencies
  - Check vehicle maintenance
  - Check secondary loads
  - Check protective covers & lashing



- Many installations provide large area for convoy staging
- Stage vehicles in convoy order
- Use to perform final preparations



- UMC or Deployment Support Brigade personnel inspect following:
  - Loads for stowage, bracing, covers & lashing
  - Fuel levels
  - Maintenance, tires, fluids & leaks
  - HAZMAT stowage & documentation
  - Documentation & vehicle marking



### **Driver Preparation**



- Driver preparation includes:
  - Proper rest
  - Licenses and endorsements for vehicle and HAZMAT
  - Aware of convoy route and rules of road
  - Understanding of interval & "4 second Rule"



- Convoy Commander's briefing
  - Any final changes to convoy
  - Review strip map (issue if necessary)
  - Review any potential problems areas